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ADVERTISER FARM AND HOME HOUR
PROGRAM TITLE UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS 347
CHICAGO OUTLET WMAQ BLUE
(11:30-12:30 PM) (DECEMBER 29, 1939) (FRIDAY)
TIME DATE DAY
PRODUCTION
ANNOUNCER
ENGINEER
REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

2. MUSIC: QUARTER, RANGERS' SONG

3. ANNOUNCER: In the past few years winter sports have become a major
4. item in the recreation calendar. Ten years ago only the
5. hardiest sportsmen dared venture forth into the forests on a pair of
6. skis; snow shoe trips were made mostly by Canadian trappers; and
7. tobogganing was confined to a few places like Lake Placid and
8. Switzerland. But today everybody from Grandpa to Junior can get out
9. and enjoy themselves. In the first place, people now realize that a
10. breath of cold fresh air does not always bring on pneumohia. Secondly,
11. there are many more winter sports developments than there ever have
12. been before, especially the many winter sports areas that have been
13. developed on our National Forests, accessible from almost any place
14. in the country.

15. Ranger Jim Robbins, out there on the Pine Cone National
16. Forest, is getting his winter sports area ready for folks to enjoy,
17. too. As a matter of fact, this morning he and Jerry are going up to
18. the CCC camp -- that's Camp Robbins, you know -- they're going up
19. there to start training a crew of the boys in first aid and general
20. woods-craft. The boys will go on duty at the winter sports area as
21. a special patrol crew. Ranger Jim and Jerry Quick, the assistant
22. Ranger, are in the office of the Ranger Station now, getting ready to
23. leave for the camp ...

24.

25.

1. JERRY: (FADING IN) Here's that first aid manual, Jim.
2. JIM: Thanks, Jerry. Put it on the desk there. (GRUNTING) Got to
3. get these boots laced up. (GRUNTING)
4. JERRY: Say, Jim, it looks like some of those rookies that came into
5. camp last week might make good men for a snow patrol crew after
6. they get a little experience under their belts.
7. JIM: Quite a number of farm boys among them.
8. JERRY: They're hefty enough, if they can only learn to handle a pair
9. of skis.
10. JIM: (CHUCKLING) Well, they're busy right now learning the
11. ropes from the old timers.
12. JERRY: (LAUGHING) You mean they're getting taken through the ropes?
13. JIM: I guess that's more like it, yes. Some of the boys that have
14. been there for a while are getting pretty good at it. I was
15. talking to this youngster Tony Norris, the one they just made
16. camp steward, and his pal Soup Bone.
17. JERRY: Is Soup Bone still one of the cooks?
18. JIM: You bet. Can't keep him out of the kitchen. Says when he
19. leaves the Corps he 's going to get himself a job as a head
20. chef at the hotel in Winding Creek ... the Hotel De Hamburger.
21. JERRY: (LAUGHING) He's quite a kid.
22. JIM: Well, Tony and Soup Bone have been working on this rookie
23. named Watson McCallister.
24. JERRY: The boy from Frog Leg Junction?
25. JIM: That's the one.

1. JERRY: The Abe Lincoln of Mizoori.
2. JIM: Watson's all right. He's kinda self conscious about bein' so
3. tall and awkward, but he'll catch onto things pretty soon.
4. JERRY: He hasn't got off to a very fast start. Tony and Soup Bone
5. have been riding him ever since he got to camp. Isn't a
6. day goes by that they don't get off some kind of gag at his
7. expense.
8. JIM: I know. I talked to him yesterday for a while. He's so tall
9. his feet hang over the end of his bunk, so they sent him
10. looking for a mattress stretcher.
11. JERRY: Did he catch on?
12. JIM: He's beginning to. But I'm kinda wondering what's going to
13. happen today.
14. JERRY: Why, Jim?
15. JIM: Well, when I talked to Tony, he said he and Soup Bone were all
16. set to pull their Wampus Cat trick on Watson ...
17. JERRY: (LAUGHING) I s'pose that's an essential part of his
18. education.
19. JIM: Tony said they were going to start this morning. (FADING)
20. They have it worked up into a regular act by now ...
21. MUSIC UP AND OUT.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.

1. SOUP BONE: (FADING IN) Hurry up with them spuds, you guys. If Tony
2. comes back here and finds they ain't peeled, he's gonna
3. raise hob with ya.
4. VOICE: (OFF) Awright, Soup Bone. Keep yer shirt on.
5. DOOR OPENS AND SLAMS SHUT
6. SOUP: Here he comes now. I tol' ya.
7. TONY: (FADING IN) Hey, Soup Bone, I got him detailed for K.P.
8. and he's comin' down to the kitchen right now.
9. SOUP: Who? Watson?
10. TONY: Yeah, sure. We gotta have another man, so I asked for
11. him.
12. SOUP: We gonna start to work on him this morning?
13. TONY: Sure, before he catches onto us ridin' him all the time.
14. I just tried on the bob cat hide again and it fits okay,
15. all except the head's kinda loose. But gee, I look like a
16. real bob cat, if you don't look too close.
17. SOUP: I wish we could figure out some way to make the eyes flash
18. at night. That'd really scare 'em.
19. TONY: We ain't got time to fool with it. Now listen, when he
20. comes in we'll start out with the stuff about the milk
21. scouring. I'll be telling you ...
22. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES
23. SOUP: There he is now.
24.
25.

1. TONY: (SOTTO VOICE) Don't pay any 'tenshun to him 'till I give
 2. you the sign. (NORMAL VOICE) So I had to go order a whole
 3. new order of milk. The Captain said he never heard
 4. anything like it; Twenty gallons of milk souring every
 5. day this week, and right in the middle of winter ...

6. WATSON: (CLEARS HIS THROAT) Uh, say ...

7. SOUP: I know but what can we do about it?

8. TONY: Not a thing. That's the trouble. Even the old time
 9. trappers around here won't go out after a Wampus Cat.
 10. SOUP: You can't blame 'em, can you? There wouldn't a one of 'em
 11. come back alive if they did.

12. WATSON: Uh, say, Tony ...

13. TONY: But this is the first time ... Oh, hello there, Watson,
 14. I didn't notice you.

15. WATSON: (SPEAKS HALTINGLY, IS SELF-CONSCIOUS AND UNCERTAIN) They
 16. sent me down here on a K.P. detail, Tony. Says I was to
 17. work for you.

18. TONY: Well, that's the best break I've had all week.

19. SOUP: Yeah, we sure been havin' tough luck.

20. WATSON: You have?

21. TONY: Yeah. All week.

22. WATSON: What's the trouble?

23. TONY: That doggone wampus cat's still hangin' around. The milk
 24. was sour again this morning.
 25.

1. WATSON: It was? ... Say, that shore is too bad ... What made it git
2. sour this time of the year?

3. SOUP: The wampus oat musta been screechin'.

4. WATSON: What kind of a oat did you say?

5. TONY: The wampus cat. Didn't you ever hear of a wampus cat?

6. WATSON: Nope ... I've heard of pole oats ... But I ain't never
7. heerd of no wampus cat.

8. SOUP: Look just like a bob cat, but they sure are holy terrors.

9. WATSON: But what's the cat got to do with the sour milk?

10. TONY: Everything. When a wampus cat screams at night it curdles
11. the milk for ten miles around.

12. WATSON: (WITH DAWNING SKEPTICISM) Aw now shucks ...

13. TONY: Just wait 'till you hear one scream. You'll never forget
14. it as long as you live.

15. WATSON: (THE SKEPTICISM IS WANING) Yer tellin' me fer a fact?

16. TONY: The milk was sour, wasn't it?

17. WATSON: I dunno. That's what you fellers say.

18. SOUP: Well, they've found plenty of dead eagles around here
19. lately. There ain't no doubt about a wampus cat bein' in
20. this territory.

21. WATSON: Do they kill eagles, too?

22. SOUP: That's their favorite pastime. They spot an eagle's nest
23. and throw rocks at it until the eagles fly out. Then they
24. wait 'till the eagles get about a mile away, just to give
25. 'em a fair start.

1. WATSON: Uhuh ... But how do they kill 'em?

2. SOUP: With one rook about the size of your fist.

3. WATSON: Huh?

4. SOUP: The old wampus cat rears up on his hind legs and throws it,
5. just like a baseball, and he never misses.

6. WATSON: From a mile away?

7. TONY: Sure. That's nothin'.

8. SOUP: And boy-oh-boy when a wampus cat's on a rampage -- when he's
9. really fightin' mad, and tearin' through the woods, his
10. breath comes out of his nostrils like they was blow torches.
11. That's why we have so many forest fires that can't be
12. accounted for in this country.

13. TONY: But the funniest thing of all about 'em, is what they do
14. when they run into a man ... they'd never attack a man
15. without givin' him a fair chance. Whenever they run
16. across one, they rear up on their hind legs and square off
17. just like a prize fighter. And they'll spar with you for a
18. little if you ain't so scared you drop dead. But of course
19. it don't do no good. 'Cause once a wampus cat hits you,
20. you're lucky if there's enough left of you to make out what
21. happened.

22. WATSON: (PAUSE) Say ... them things is right dangerous, ain't they?

23. SOUP: Dangerous, my eye. They're sure death.

24. TONY: There ain't a man alive today that's ever seen one. And
25. what's more, there's darn few ever seen the tracks of a
wampus cat. Do you know why?

1. WATSON: Naw ...

2. TONY: Because they only leave their tracks on solid rock.

3. WATSON: ... On solid rock?

4. TONY: Yep.

5. WATSON: ... But how can they do that?

6. TONY: Don't ask me ...

7. WATSON: Dawgonne ...

8. SOUP: Hey, Tony, should we let Watson in on it.

9. TONY: Huh? ... Aw no, no. I don't think so.

10. SOUP: He can keep his mouth shut.

11. TONY: But he's only a rookie.

12. SOUP: That don't make no difference. Look, Watson, can you keep

13. a dead secret?

14. WATSON: Shore I kin ... Shore.

15. SOUP: How about it, Tony?

16. TONY: Well ... I guess so.

17. SOUP: Listen, Watson ... (SOTTO) we know where there's a wampus

18. cat's track in solid rock.

19. TONY: Clear as the lines in your hand.

20. SOUP: We run onto it one Sunday when we was hikin'. Never told

21. a soul.

22. TONY: It's covered up with snow now. But we'll show it to you ...

23. that is, if you really want to see it.

24. WATSON: Shore I do, shore.

25. SOUP: Awright, we'll go up there tonight, before the snow gets too

deep.

1. TONY: Wait, Soup, I can't go tonight. Got a date in town.
2. SOUP: Golly, that's tough ...
3. WATSON: Aw, it's awright. I ain't in no hurry.
4. SOUP: (QUICKLY) No, we better go tonight. Might have another
5. foot of snow before we could get up there again. I'll
6. take you myself. We'll slip away from camp after ohw
7. tonight.
8. TONY: But look here, Watson, you can't tell anybody about this.
9. Not a soul. Get it?
10. WATSON: Shore, I git it. I don't tell nobody.
11. MUSIC UP AND OUT
12. FADE IN SOUND OF SCOURING METAL PAN
13. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES
14. JIM: (FADING IN) Well, hello there, Watson.
15. SCOURING STOPS
16. WATSON: Oh, hullo, Mr. Robbins.
17. JIM: You holding down the kitchen detail single handed?
18. WATSON: Yep. I got to clean up these here skillets. Then I'll
19. be done 'till supper time.
20. JIM: Where's Tony and Soup Bone and the rest of 'em?
21. WATSON: They said they had a special detail up at the canteen.
22. JIM: I see. Well, how are you gettin' along?
23. WATSON: Oh, I like it fine. Only I wisht I could git out into the
24. woods.
- 25.

1. JIM: Well, you have to learn a few things first, and get your
2. muscles hardened to the work.

3. WATSON: Shucks all frighty, Mr. Robbins, if my muscles ain't hard
4. now, they never will git that way. I been workin' on my
5. paw's farm since before I knowed it.

6. JIM: Well, you have to know something about good woodmanship
7. and first aid and a few other things. It won't be long.

8. WATSON: I shore do hope it ain't.

9. JIM: ... How are you makin' out working for Tony?

10. WATSON: Aw, we git along ...

11. JIM: He and Soup Bone are what you might call old timers in
12. the CCC. Anyhow, they've been here for about eight
13. months.

14. WATSON: Uhuh ... They shore do know a heap about the country 'round
15. here.

16. JIM: Oh, yes ... I reckon they're about the only fellas in camp
17. that know anything about wampus cats.

18. WATSON: They do fer a fact?

19. JIM: Oh, yes. They're real authorities ... I suppose they've
20. told you about that wampus cat that's been around here
21. lately.

22. WATSON: Well ... they did say somethin' about the milk a gittin'
23. sour.
24.
25.

1. JIM: Uhuh. That's a pretty bad thing. But did they tell you
2. how a wampus cat will always give a man a fightin'
3. chance ...stand up on his hind legs and box with him?
4. WATSON: Yep, they did. But a man ain't got a chance in the world
5. of winnin'.
6. JIM: Oh, yes, he has. You know every wampus cat has that one
7. weakness. Didn't they tell you about it?
8. WATSON: Naw, they just sez you ain't got no chance if you run
9. into one.
10. JIM: Well, then you ought to know this, just in case you run
11. into one some time. (FADING) You see, every wampus cat,
12. when he rears up on his hind legs ...
13. MUSIC UP AND OUT
14. FADE IN RATTLE OF DRY, BRITTLE BRUSH
15. SOUP: (FADING IN) It's up this trail a little ways yet.
16. WATSON: There ain't much trail.
17. SOUP: Well, you couldn't expect it to be out in the open.
18. Wampus cats only travel where nobody else can.
19. WATSON: It's a good thing there's a moon tonight or we wouldn't be
20. able to see the wampus cat's track.
21. SOUP: I hope we don't hear him screech tonight. Scare you so
22. bad it'd turn you into an icicle.
23. PAUSE AS THEY CONTINUE WALKING THROUGH THE BRUSH
24. THERE IS THE PLAINTIVE WHIMPER OF A CAT
25.

1. SOUP: Wait a minute. What was that?
2. RATTLE OF BRUSH STOPS
3. WATSON: What?
4. SOUP: Didn't you hear it?
5. WATSON: I didn't hear nothin'.
6. THE CAT MEOWS AGAIN
7. SOUP: (HUSHED VOICE) There it is again.
8. WATSON: (NATURAL VOICE) Uhuh ... Sounds like a cat, don't it?
9. SOUP: (SCARED STIFF) It's a wampus cat.
10. WATSON: I thought you said they screeched.
11. SOUP: Not when they're trackin' something.
12. WATSON: Aw gee ... gee let's go.
13. THE CAT MEOWS AGAIN
14. SOUP: (IN MORTAL TERROR) There it is again. It's right around
15. here close somewhere.
16. WATSON: Let's go back to camp.
17. SOUP: Shsh-h don't talk. He'll hear you.
18. WATSON: Kin they understand English, too?
19. SOUP: No, but if they hear a human voice they're likely to ...
20. (OFF MIKE THERE IS A HAIR-RAISING CAT SCREAM)
21. SOUP: Look out, there's the wampus cat. (FADING) Run for it before
22. he kills you ... Don't stand there. Run ... (OFF) Run, you
23. dope, he's comin' right towards yuh ... Lookout, he's rarin'
24. up to box with you. Don't git so close to him. Look out.
25. AGAIN THE HAIR RAISING YOWL BUT CLOSER THIS TIME: IT STOPS: THERE IS THE THUD OF A BODY BLOW, A GASP, AND ANOTHER THUD.

1. SOUP: I)FF Hey, what didja do? Did you hit 'im? (FADING IN)

2. Hey, you knocked him down.

3. THE WAMPUS CAT GROANS MISERABLEY

4. SOUP: (FADING UP TO FULL MIKE) Help him up outa the snow. You

5. knocked his wind out.

6. WATSON: Look out. Stand back. I'm gonna finish him.

7. SOUP: Hey, stop, you might hut 'im.

8. WATSON: Say ... Say, look! His head's come off ...

9. TONY: GROANS AND GASPS

10. SOUP: Are you all right, Tony? Are you hurt?

11. WATSON: Dawgonne, it's Tony.

12. TONY: Oh-h-h-h-h he hit me right in the stomach.

13. WATSON: Shucks, I didn't mean to do yuh no harm.

14. SOUP: You ought a be careful, goin' around bustin' people in the

15. stomach.

16. WATSON: Shucks, I jus' thought he was a real wampus cat like we got

17. back home in Mazoori.

18. TONY: What's that?

19. SOUP: You mean you knew about wampus cats all the time?

20. WATSON: Well, I ain't no expert on 'em. But I've run into 'em

21. down in Mazoori, where I come from.

22. SOUP: And you knew all the time we were only kiddin' about the

23. wampus cat tracks?

24.

25.

1. WATSON: Naw, I thought you fellas really meant it. But you fellas
2. been so nice to me ever since I been in camp that I didn't
3. have the heart to tell you I seen 'em purty near every day
4. since I was a boy.

5. SOUP: Huh? Say what're you talkin' about?

6. WATSON: Shore ... I've fit with plenty of wampus cat. That's how
7. come I knowed what to do when you come out dressed up like
8. one.

9. TONY: Aw, you're off your bean.

10. WATSON: Naw, it's a fact. Didn't you never hear about the one
11. weakness a wampus cat's got?

12. TONY: ... Naw, I didn't ... Did you?

13. WATSON: Shore, I have. You see a wampus cat's a funny critter.
14. When he comes at you to box with you, all you hafta do is
15. tramp on his toes and sock him in the stomach before he
16. kin start swingin'. That'll surprise him so bad (FADING)
17. to have the wind knocked out of him that you can finish
18. him off ...

19. MUSIC UP AND OUT

20.

21.

22.

23.

24.

25.

1. ANNOUNCER: Well, it all seems to be part of the education of a
 2. greenhorn ... snipe hunting, wampus cats, left-handed
 3. monkey wrenches ... no matter whether it's a CCC camp
 4. or your own shop or office, it's all part of the game
 5. of breaking in the beginners ... And our old friend
 6. Ranger Jim Robbins seems to have had a passable amount
 7. of experience at it, himself ...
 8. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you every Friday as
 9. a feature of the Farm and Home Hour through the courtesy
 10. of the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation
 11. of the United States Forest Service.

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